



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of

FRATER et al.

Atty. Ref.: 4398-169; Confirmation No. 2733

Appl. No. 09/885,445

TC/A.U. 3743

Filed: June 21, 2001

Examiner: K. Odland

For: MASK WITH GUSSET

\* \* \* \* \*

July 16, 2004

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

In view of the filing of a Request for Continued Examination in connection with the above-identified patent application, the following "Preliminary" Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated March 17, 2004.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12.

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